



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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\$175,000 Settlement Reached with Port of San Francisco

Berkeley --- The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced a \$175,000 settlement with the Port of San Francisco (Port) for a hazardous waste violation involving a soil pile that was stored at Pier 92.

Under terms of the settlement signed on April 30, 2004, the Port will pay a total of \$175,000 of which \$63,000 is a civil penalty, \$57,000 is reimbursement of enforcement costs incurred by DTSC, and \$55,000 is reimbursement of cleanup oversight costs incurred by DTSC. A copy of the Order is available at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

"We are pleased to bring resolution to this matter and have the Port of San Francisco back in compliance," said DTSC Director Ed Lowry.

The settlement stems from a violation observed during an investigation at Pier 92 by DTSC in 2002. DTSC inspectors found that from January 1999 until February 2003, the Port violated state hazardous waste laws by storing approximately 15,000 cubic yards of soil contaminated with hazardous levels of lead. The soil pile was located on approximately 2 acres of Amador Street, south off Pier 92's Fish Meal Building.

The contaminated soil pile was left at Pier 92 in the early 1990s after the Port leased a parcel of land to Bay Area Tank and Marine Corporation (BATM). BATM used the Pier 92 site to bioremediate petroleum-contaminated soil, which was then improperly categorized by the company as being non-hazardous and stored in a pile atop an asphalt base. BATM later abandoned the pile.

In December 2002, Port workers began removing and disposing of the lead-contaminated soil and debris at Pier 92, under the order and oversight of DTSC. Removal of the soil pile was completed in February 2003. The contaminated soil was transported by rail to a landfill in East Carbon City, Utah for disposal. DTSC has determined that no further cleanup is required.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.